(b) the details thereof, State-wise;

(c) if not, the reasons for not starting this project; and

(d) by when this project would be started?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) and (b) The Programme "Vidya Vahini" was conceived by the Department of Information Technology as a pilot project. The project has been implemented in 140 Government/Government-aided schools in the following 7 districts (20 schools per district) in 6 States in the country:

(i) Kuppam (Chittor), Andhra Pradesh

(ii) Gandhi Nagar, Gujarat

(iii) Hazaribagh, Jharkhand

(iv) Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

(v) Allahabad, Uttar Pradesh

(vi) South 24-Parganas (Kolkata), West Bengal

(vii) Parlivaijnath (Beed), Maharashtra

(c) and (d) Do not arise.

Recruitment rules of TRAI

1466. SHRI M.A.M. RAMASWAMY: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India has framed its own Recruitment Rules;

(b) if so, the rules framed with regard to the post of Assistant;

(c) whether it is a fact that some Assistants have been recruited directly by the TRAI from open market whose appointments were summarily rejected by the erstwhile TRAI higher authorities;

(d) if so, the reasons for overruling the decision of the old authority;

(e) whether it is a fact that all 08 (eight) Assistants recruited directly from the open market are the kins of serving employees of the TRAI; and

(f) if so, the details of these employees?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (DR. SHAKEEL AHMAD): (a) Yes, Sir. The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (Officers and Staff Appointment) Regulation, 2001 was notified on 15th February, 2001.

(b) As per Schedule-II of the Regulation, the qualification and experience for Direct Recruitment for the post of Assistant is a graduate degree from a recognized University/Institution.

(c) No, Sir. Appointment of none of the Assistants recruited through open advertisement was rejected by higher authorities.

(d) Does not arise in view of (c) above.

(e) and (f) Of the 8 Assistants appointed by TRAI, 3 are related to the serving employees of TRAI.

Interest on deposit in Post Office

†1467. SHRI BHAGWATI SINGH: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that no interest is given on the amount exceeding prescribed limit deposited in the savings account of a Post Office whereas there is no limit on the maximum amount for depositing in savings account of Banks;

(b) if so, the comparative details thereof;

(c) whether Government have taken any measures/given suggestions to remove such anomalies;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.